

2019 King County Water Taxi Facts and Figures



Mission

To provide safe, reliable, efficient, environmentally sound, customer-friendly, and fiscally responsible passenger-only ferry services to the public and establish waterborne transportation as a viable mode of transportation in support of regional mobility and a high quality of life in King County.

Agency Overview

The King County Department of Metro Transit Marine Division currently operates the King County Water Taxi. The Marine Division is responsible for the operations, moorage, and maintenance of the vessels that provide ferry services. Passenger-only ferry services are provided from Pier 50 in downtown Seattle, with service to Vashon Island and West Seattle.

2019 Performance Metrics				
Category	Vashon Island	West Seattle	System	
Passengers Served	257,615	443,993	701,608	
Trips	2,974	11,317	14,291	
Miles Traveled	29,740	23,478	53,218	
Days of Service	249	317	566	
Service Hours	1,487	4,633	6,120	
On-Time Performance	97.6%	98.9%	98.3%	
Service Reliability	99.3%	98.7%	99.0%	

Passenger Ferry Operations

	Vashon Island	West Seattle	
Category	Year-Round	Winter November through March	Peak April through October
Distance	10 miles	2 miles	2 miles
Time	22 minutes	10 minutes	10-15 minutes
Speed	28 knots	18 knots	12-18 knots
Sailings per day	6 round trips	12 round trips	12-21 round trips
Fuel (Total Gallons)	133,525	97,428	
Bio-Diesel Gallons (B10)	1,506	924	
Bio-Diesel Gallons (B20)	22,004	14,624	
Diesel Gallons	110,015	81,880	
Service	Weekdays only- morning and evening commutes	Weekdays only- morning and evening commutes	7 days per week 11-16 hours per day
Adult One Way Fare	\$6.75	\$5.75	
Vessels	M/V Sally Fox	M/V Doc Maynard	
Capacity	278 passengers	278 passengers	
Terminals (Home- Pier 50	Vashon Terminal- adjacent to auto	Seacrest Dock- leased from	
adjacent to Colman Dock)	ferry dock leased from WSF	City of Seattle Parks	
Transit connections	Metro routes #118 and 119 on Vashon WSF Vashon - Southworth route	Metro shuttle #773 and 775 to Alki Beach and West Seattle	
Route History	WSF funded and operated 1994 through mid 2008	Argosy Cruises operated 1998 through 2009	

2019 Marine Division Highlights

Grand Opening of new Pier 50 Passenger Only Ferry Facility

Celebrated the Marine Division's 10
Year Anniversary

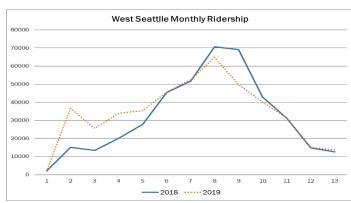
Operated 3 Boat Service January through March in support of Viaduct Closure and Demolition and Grand opening of new SR99 Tunnel

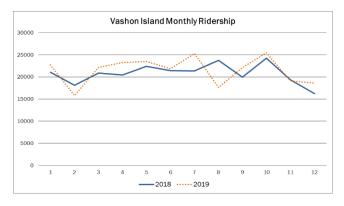
Ridership

In 2019, the Water Taxi served 701,608 passengers system wide, bringing the total passengers to over 5.9 million since inception of the King County Ferry District in 2008.

West Seattle Route

The West Seattle route carried nearly 443,993 passengers in 2019 which was a 7% increase over 2018. Part of our success continues to be growth in our year-round commute ridership, which increased by 3% during this period. During January through March of 2019, we operated two-boat service on this route in support of the Viaduct Closure and Demolition and Grand Opening of the new SR99 Tunnel.





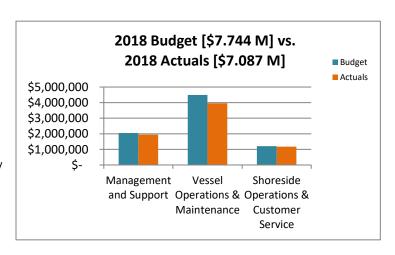
Vashon Island

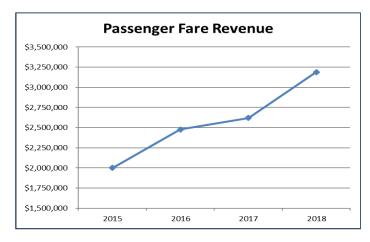
In 2019, the Vashon Island route carried over 257,000 passengers, an increase of 3.3% over 2018. The Vashon route has more than doubled in annual ridership since taking over the annual service operation in 2010. This route's continued ridership growth each year makes the case that the Water Taxi is the best direct connection from Vashon Island to downtown Seattle.

Finance

The Marine Division successfully monitored expenses in 2018 to stay within the annual operating budget. Total operating expenditures were \$7,087,003, which was 8% under budget.

Passenger fare revenue increased 22% over 2017 for a total of \$3,189,322. This is the highest fare revenue collections to date. This represents a Farebox Recovery rate of 45% for operations.





The primary source of fares is ORCA, the regional fare collection system, which is 68% of the total fare revenue collected. This was an increase of 19% over 2017 ORCA fare revenue. Cash and ticket sales are 32% of the total fare revenues received.